1   Interview Summaries

1.1   Town of Arundel (Planning)

Interview Type	Personal, Municipality
Interview Location	Arundel Town Hall
Interview Date	October 30, 2001
Summary Date	November 8, 2001
Interviewer	CDM / Marianne MacDonald macdonaldml@cdm.com
Interviewed:	Dan Fleishman, Planner

Staff Size (approx)	1 person, 3 days per week
Budget (approx)	$0
URL:	

1.1.1   Overview

Arundel is a rural town with approximately 1,600 taxable real estate parcels. The town does not have any specific staff or budget dedicated to GIS. GIS is only used by the Town's Planner, who supports other departments by producing maps when necessary.

1.1.2   GIS Initiatives

1.1.2.1   Overview of GIS Utilization

GIS has been used by the Town Planner in Arundel since 1996. The primary use of GIS is for making maps. There is no budget specifically for GIS, but it is used regularly by the Planner.

1.1.2.2   GIS Operating Environment and Infrastructure

ESRI's desktop GIS software, ArcView 3.2, is installed on a single desktop computer in Town Hall. This computer is used by the Town Planner. There is a printer and plotter available for outputting maps.

1.1.2.3   GIS Data Resources and Requirements

1.1.2.3.1   Spatial Data

Tax maps were digitized in 1996, before the current planner was on staff. Most data is NAD27, State Plane Meters. No meta data is maintained with the GIS, and little is known about the data that was created prior to the arrival of the current planner in 1999. Other data layers including census data, streets, hydrology, soils, geology, habitats and topography are obtained through the Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission (SMPC) as needs arise. Other data is created by the planner in ArcView as needed. This includes fire hydrant locations, zoning, open space, wetlands and municipal facilities.

There are 43 tax map sheets in the town hall, originally created in 1972.

Aerial photography exists on paper for the Town as a result of a project done by the done by Sewall in 1995 or 1996 for SMPC.

There are no sewer lines, and few water lines in town, and no GIS data exists for them.

Existing data sets include:
Tax maps/Parcels
Zoning
Streets
Hydrography
Open Space
Wetlands
Topography
Soils
Geology
Natural Resources

Currently unavailable but desired data sets include:
Home sales
Rental prices
Social Services
Electricity
Property survey data (in AutoCAD but uses assumed coordinate system)

1.1.2.3.2 Attribute Data
A DOS based system called Trio is used by the Assessor, it also includes tax and bookkeeping. It is tedious to get the data into GIS, but it can be done through Excel.

1.1.2.3.3 Data Issues

1.1.2.4   GIS Applications and Application Requirements
There are currently no GIS applications in use by the Arundel Planning Department.

Planned future GIS activity and applications:
- None

1.1.3 Other Relevant Issues
- It is difficult to maintain the parcel maps due to limitations in end user knowledge and software limitations.

- Data from OGIS and other sources is only useful if it is in shapefile format.

- Funding for GIS is not important because no dedicated GIS staff is needed, and data is adequate for Arundel's needs.

- Training and technical support would be useful. Some training has been obtained from local Universities, but staff is beyond basic use of ArcView, and more advanced, software specific assistance is needed.

1.1.4 Major Benefits and Cost Justification

The primary benefit of GIS for Arundel is the ability to produce maps.